8011-01p SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-71278; File No. SR-C2-2013-043)

**January 9, 2014** 

Self-Regulatory Organizations; C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Fees Schedule

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on December 30, 2013, C2 Options Exchange, Incorporated (the "Exchange" or "C2") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

## I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's website (<a href="http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/">http://www.c2exchange.com/Legal/</a>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend its Fees Schedule with regard to PULSe Workstation routing (specifically, with regard to routing from one PULSe Workstation to another). By way of background, the PULSe workstation is a front-end order entry system designed for use with respect to orders that may be sent to the trading systems of C2. In addition, the PULSe workstation provides a user with the capability to send options orders to other U.S. options exchanges and/or stock orders to other U.S. stock exchanges and trading centers<sup>3</sup> ("away-market routing").<sup>4</sup> PULSe Workstation users also have the capability to send orders between PULSe workstations. For example, a user is able to send an order from a PULSe workstation located in New York to a PULSe workstation located in Chicago. The ability to send orders "PULSe-to-PULSe" is available for use within a TPH (and any Non-TPHs to whom the TPH makes the PULSe workstation available) and between TPHs that use the PULSe workstation. A TPH may

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A "trading center," as provided under Rule 600(b)(78) of Regulation NMS, 17 CFR 242.600(b)(78), means a national securities exchange or national securities association that operates an SRO trading facility, an alternative trading system, an exchange market maker, an OTC market maker, or any other broker or dealer that executes orders internally by trading as principal or crossing orders as agent.

For a more detailed description of the PULSe workstation and its other functionalities, see, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 63246 (November 4, 2010) 75 FR 69478 (November 12, 2010) (SR-C2-2010-007), 65279 (September 7, 2011), 76 FR 56824 (September 14, 2011) (SR-C2-2011-020), 65482 (October 4, 2011), 76 FR 62879 (October 11, 2011) (SR-C2-2011-028), and 69991 (July 16, 2013), 78 FR 43956 (July 22, 2013) (SR-C2-2013-026).

establish a PULSe-to-PULSe connection with another TPH by contacting C2, who will permission the connection. Before setting up the connection, both TPHs need to acknowledge in writing (<u>e.g.</u>, including via e-mail) their agreement to establish the mutual connection.

The Exchange hereby proposes to impose a monthly PULSe-to-PULSe Routing fee of \$50 for each receiving TPH. This means that each TPH with a PULSe Workstation that elects to receive orders from another PULSe Workstation will be assessed this fee. The Exchange proposes to assess the fee to cover costs associated with the development of PULSe-to-PULSe routing, as well as the upkeep of such systems. The Exchange proposes to assess the fee to the receiving TPH because, by electing to receive PULSe-to-PULSe orders, the receiving TPH then gets the ability to execute those orders on the Exchange.

The proposed change is to take effect on January 1, 2014.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>5</sup>

Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>6</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities. The Exchange believes the imposition of the PULSe-to-PULSe Routing Fee is reasonable because it is intended to cover the costs

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>6 15</sup> U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

associated with the development of PULSe-to-PULSe routing, as well as the upkeep of such systems. The Exchange believes that it is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will be assessed to all receiving TPHs that elect to receive PULSe-to-PULSe orders. The Exchange proposes to assess the fee to the receiving TPH because, by electing to receive PULSe-to-PULSe orders, the receiving TPH then gets the ability to execute those orders on the Exchange.

#### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intramarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because the PULSe-to-PULSe Routing Fee will be assessed to all receiving TPHs that elect to receive PULSe-to-PULSe orders. C2 does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intermarket competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act because the fee only applies to PULSe-to-PULSe routing, and is not designed for competitive reasons or to affect competition between exchanges.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>7</sup> and paragraph (f)(2) of Rule 19b-4<sup>8</sup> thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

#### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form
   (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number
   SR-C2-2013-043 on the subject line.

#### Paper comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary,
 Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2013-043. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-C2-2013-043 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>9</sup>

Kevin M. O'Neill Deputy Secretary

<sup>9 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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